GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5334
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2008
UNEARTH OF SCAM IN BSNL OFFICES
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has unearthed a scam of Rs. 27 lakh after conducting raids at Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) offices in Maharashtra as reported in the Dainik Bhaskar, Nagpur Edition, dated March19, 2008;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any official inquiry into the matter on the basis of the said report;

(d) if so, whether any action has been taken against the officials involved in BSNL tower maintenance scam; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) Yes, Sir. The CBI, Nagpur has asked some documents from BSNL on 18-3-2008 and reported that a case has been registered vide RC 11(A)/07-NGP.

(b)

(i) A Regular case RC 11(A)/07-NGP was registered by CBI, Nagpur Branch on 31.12.2007 u/sec. 120 B r/w 420 IPC and Sec 13(2) r/w. 13(1)(d) of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 against (1) Shri N.P. Parate, Dy. General Manager, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Yavatmal (2) Shri P.L. Wadekar, Chief Accounts Officer, BSNL, Yavatmal (3) Shri M.M. Khiratkar, Divisional Engineer, BSNL Yavatmal and (4) Proprietor of M/s Mahesh Constructions, Indore.

(ii) The brief allegations are that the accused public servants entered into a criminal conspiracy with a private person to cheat Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Yavatmal in the work relating to painting and earthing of cable pillars and caused wrongful loss to the BSNL, Yavatmal to the tune of about Rs. 27.31 lakhs. After registration of the case, searches were conducted on 13.3.2008 and 15.3.2008 at the residence and office premises of public servants S/Shri M.M. Khiratkar, DE (Central) BSNL, Nagpur, P.L. Wadekar, Chief Accounts Officer, Aurangabad and Pvt. Persons viz., Shri Santosh Kumar Rajpur, Indore, Shri Vishal Jain, Yavatmal.

(iii) Investigation is in progress by CBI.

(c) to (e) No, Sir.CBI is still investigating the case.